

# St Mary's Church, Walkley



**The Church on the Road:**  
*Inclusive, Eucharistic, a safe place to be with God*

## The Fifth Sunday of Easter Eucharist

**28<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley**

**President: The Revd Canon James Wilson**  
**President: Catherine, Reader at St Mary's**  
**Churchwarden on duty: Janet**

## The Gathering and Opening Hymn

*We stand and we sing the opening hymn.*

*President* In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Greeting

*President* Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you.

*All* **and also with you.**

*President* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*All* **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## The Confession and Absolution

*Minister* Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.  
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil  
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

1 Corinthians 5.7,8

*We keep a time of silence.*

*Minister* Like Mary at the empty tomb,  
we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Minister* Like the disciples behind locked doors,  
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.  
Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy,**

*Minister* Like Thomas in the upper room,  
we are slow to believe.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*President* May the God of love  
bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*We remain standing and we sing.*

### **The Gloria in Excelsis**

*Cantor* Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,

*All* **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

*Cantor* Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

*All* **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

*Cantor* Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

*All* **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

*Cantor* For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

*All* **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

## The Collect

*President* Let us pray.

Risen Christ,  
your wounds declare your love for the world  
and the wonder of your risen life:  
give us compassion and courage  
to risk ourselves for those we serve,  
to the glory of God the Father.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## The Reading: Acts 8. 26 - end

*Reader* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went

down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.  
*All* **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gradual Hymn**

*We stand and we sing. During the hymn we turn to face the processional cross as it moves to the middle of the people.*

### **The Gospel Reading: John 15. 1 - 8**

*Minister* Alleluia, alleluia.  
I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

*All* **Alleluia.**

Revelation 1.17,18

*Minister* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

*Minister* This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## The Sermon

*We stand.*

## The Creed

*President* Let us declare our faith in God,

*All*       **We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*We sit or kneel.*

## **The Prayers of Intercession**

*Intercessor* Jesus, Lord of life,  
*All* **in your mercy, hear us.**

*Or another response is used.*

*Intercessor* Merciful Father,  
*All* **accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

*We stand.*

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

### **The Peace**

*President* The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples  
and said, 'Peace be with you.'  
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

John 20.19, 20

*President* The peace of the Lord be always with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

*Minister* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We remain in our seats, sharing the peace through waves to those  
around us.*

## **The Offertory Hymn**

*We stand and we sing as the altar is prepared. If you would like to  
support St Mary's, donations can be made after the service at the  
back of church using the collection plate or contactless card giving  
station.*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

*President* The Lord is here.

*All* **His Spirit is with us.**

*President* Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*President* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*President* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and in these days of Easter  
to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death and hell  
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.

He has placed them once more in paradise  
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation  
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

*Cantor* Holy Holy Holy Lord

*All* **Holy Holy Holy Lord**

*Cantor* God of power and God of might

*All* **God of power and God of might**

*Cantor* Heaven and earth are full of your glory

*All* **Heaven and earth are full of your glory**

*Cantor* Hosanna in the highest

*All* **Hosanna in the highest**

*Cantor* Blessed is he who comes

*All* **Blessed is he who comes**

*Cantor* In the name of the Lord most High

*All* **In the name of the Lord most High**

*Cantor* Hosanna

*All* **Hosanna**

*Cantor* Hosanna

*All* **Hosanna**

*Cantor* Hosanna in the highest

*All* **Hosanna in the highest**



*President* We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.  
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

*Minister* Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

*Cantor* Dying you destroyed our death

*All* **Dying you destroyed our death**

*Cantor* Rising you restored our life

*All* **Rising you restored our life**

*Cantor* Lord Jesus come

*All* **Lord Jesus come**

*Cantor* Lord Jesus come

*All* **Lord Jesus come**

*Cantor* Come again in glory

*All* **Come again in glory**

*President* Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with Mary, Mark, John and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

*All*        **Amen.**

*We sit or kneel.*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*President* Rejoicing in God's new creation,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

*All*        **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*President* Jesus says, I am the bread of life,  
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

*All*        **Lord, our hearts hunger for you;  
give us this bread always.**

## **The Giving of Communion**

*President* Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

*All* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The president will give instructions on how to come forward for communion and on returning to our seats. All are welcome to come to front for the bread and wine or a blessing. If you would like a blessing please keep your arms folded across your chest at you approach the front.*

*We are now able to receive the wine as well as the bread. The president will dip the wafer in the wine before giving it to you. Gluten free wafers are available, please ask at the altar. During the distribution we sing and music is played.*

## **The Prayer after Communion**

*President* Let us pray.

Eternal God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:  
grant us to walk in his way,  
to rejoice in his truth,  
and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*All* **Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **The Notices**

*We stand.*

## **The Blessing**

*President* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*All* **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*President* God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to us the gates of everlasting life.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* God the Son,  
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give us joy as we share the Easter faith.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* God the Holy Spirit,  
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,  
empower us and fill us with Christ's peace.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us always.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Closing Hymn**

*We remain standing and we sing during which we turn to face the back of church as the robed ministers process.*

Tune: Abbot's Leigh (Glorious things of thee are spoken)

**Lord your Church on earth is seeking  
your renewal from above;  
teach us all the art of speaking  
with the accent of your love.  
We would heed your great commission:  
sending us to every place -  
preach, baptise, fulfil my mission,  
serve with love and share my grace.**

**Freedom give to those in bondage,  
lift the burdens caused by sin.  
Give new hope, new strength and courage,  
grant release from fears within:  
light for darkness; joy for sorrow;  
love for hatred; peace for strife.  
These and countless blessings follow  
as the Spirit gives new life.**

**In the streets of every city  
where the bruised and lonely dwell,  
let us show the Saviour's pity,  
let us of his mercy tell.  
In all lands and with all races  
let us serve, and seek to bring  
all the world to render praises,  
Christ to you, Redeemer, King.**

Hugh Sherlock, 1905-1998

Translated: Richard Rutt

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## **The Dismissal**

*Minister* He is not here. He is risen.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.  
*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.**

***Coffee and tea are served after the service, all are  
welcome.***

**For more information: [stmaryswalkley.co.uk](http://stmaryswalkley.co.uk)**

